AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended): A composition comprising a multiplicity of different labels, wherein each different label ~~comprises~~ is directed to a different specific target, wherein each label consists essentially of a particulate support which support is coupled [[~~both~~]]

(a) to ~~one or more~~ a first characterizing signal-generating ~~moieties~~ moiety which moiety comprises one or more entities that ~~together generate~~ emit one or more wavelengths that compose a visible characterizing signal that characterizes said label, and

(b) to a second signal-generating moiety consisting of a single fluorophore directly attached to said particulate support which second signal-generating moiety emits the same wavelength at the same intensity from all of said different labels ~~so as to generate a clamped value signal from each said label~~,

wherein the wavelength of the signal generated by said second signal-generating moiety is different from the one or more wavelengths that compose the characterizing signal which characterizing signal characterizes the label, and

wherein said ~~labels~~ each label further ~~contain reagents which permit each of them to interact specifically with a desired~~ contains at least one reagent that binds specifically to a target for said label.

2. (previously presented): The composition of claim 1, wherein said characterizing signal-generating ~~moieties~~ moiety comprises at least two different signal-generating entities wherein each of the entities generates a wavelength different from that generated by the other entity(s) and wherein the resulting signals of the labels resulting from said wavelength(s) is varied among the different labels whereby each different label is thereby characterized by a different characterizing signal.

3. (currently amended): A method to determine the distribution of multiple target substances in a sample which method comprises contacting said sample with the composition of claim 1,

wherein the number of labels at a location in the sample is assessed by measuring the intensity of the ~~clamped value signal~~ wavelength emitted from the second signal generating moiety attached to said particulate ~~support~~ supports,

and the nature of the target ~~substance~~ at a location in the sample is assessed by ~~determining~~ identifying the characterizing signal,

whereby the distribution of ~~targeted substances~~ targets in the sample is determined.

4. (previously presented): The method of claim 3, wherein said sample is displayed on a support suitable for viewing by microscopy.

5. (previously presented): The method of claim 4, wherein the sample comprises an intracellular environment.

6. (previously presented): The method of claim 4, wherein the sample comprises neural circuitry.

7. (previously presented): The composition of claim 1, wherein said particulate supports have diameters of 20-200 nm.

8-9. (canceled)